Mr. P. Damodara Menon.—The approximate area can be ascertained only after the disafforestation of forest areas for cultivation purposes is completed. The Member is referred to the discussion printed at pages 1582 and 1583 of the Council Proceedings for 1101, Volume II, Part 19.

84. മിസ്റ്റർ കെ. പി. കരുണൻ.— (a) പലിശ്ശനിനും ഉപ്പുകയറ്റി കൊച്ചിയിലേക്കുപോകുന്ന തോണികൾ പലപ്പോഴും ഉൗന്നികളിൽ തട്ടി ഉൗന്നികൾക്കും വിളക്കുകാലിനും നാശംവരുത്തുന്ന സംഗതി മേലധികാരികളുടെ ശ്രദ്ധയിൽ പെട്ടിട്ടുണ്ടോ ;

(b) മറുപടി അനുവാദകരമായിട്ടാണെങ്കിൽ അതിന്റെ നിവാരണത്തിനു് എന്തെല്ലാം നടപടികൾ നടത്തീട്ടുണ്ടു്.

മിസ്റ്റർ പി. ദാമോദരമെനോൻ.—(a) ഇല്ല. (b) ഈ ചോദ്യത്തിനു് മറുപടി ആവശ്യമില്ല.

The representation of communities in the State service.

85. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state the names of the castes or communities shown in Table XIII of the Report of the Census of Cochin, 1921, who are not represented in the State service and the reasons, if any, why special preference is not extended to each of the unrepresented communities?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The supply of the information required would involve considerable time and labour, and the Government regret that they are unable on this account to furnish the information.

Particulars regarding certain Government Officers.

86. Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will the Government be pleased to inform.—

a. the dates on which the Diwan Secretary, Mr. Vengu Ayyar, and the Superintendent of Registration entered the Government service;

b. what is the salary now drawn by each of them;

c. when were they last given an increment of salary;

d. whether Mr. Vengu Ayyar has taken any leave after the last legislative session of the Legislative Council; and if so, for how long;

e. who has been acting or attending to his own work during his absence on leave, and when did the acting officer enter Government service and what was the salary he was getting at the beginning of 1102?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—a. Vide *the Civil List.*

b. Rs. 550 and Rs. 300 respectively.

c. On 1st Edavam 1102 and 1st Chingam 1092 respectively.

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d. Yes, from 9th Edavam to 24th Mithunam 1102 in all.

e. Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar, acting Superintendent of Stamps, Stationery, etc.

As for the date of his entry into Government service and salary, vide *the Cochin Civil List* corrected up to 1st Chingam 1102.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Have not persons drawing the same or less than the amount in 1092 been appointed to posts for more than Rs. 300 which do not require any special qualifications?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—I want notice.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is there any reason for not giving to this officer promotion for the last ten years?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There is no special reason.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Has the matter been brought to the notice of the Government?

President.—What is it?

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—That his claim should be recognised.

President.—In the position now held by him, there is no scope for promotion.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—That is only answer to part of the question.

President.—If you are not satisfied, you may put supplementary questions. The only chance of giving additional emoluments is to place him in a different post. Government have not yet found it possible to do so.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Why was not the post of the Secretary to the Diwan given to him?— I mean the acting appointment given to Mr. Sesha Ayyar.

President.—The term of the appointment was very short, and we wanted to carry on the work with a man who knew the work of the office.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Is he not qualified for the post?

President.—He may be.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—That is a special case. If he was given the appointment, he would have got an increment.

President.—But I have told you it was a short term appointment. We do not generally interfere in such cases. If we do, we will have to put somebody else in his place, and he may not know the work of the office, and by the time he learns it, the period will be over.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Did not Government put somebody in the place of Mr. Sesha Ayyar when he was appointed as Secretary to the Diwan?

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President.—We did not bring in a new man to his place. There was gradual promotion in the office.

Mr. K. T. Mathew.—Will his acting be considered as a claim for future appointments?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—No.

87. **Mr. C. A. Ouseph.**—Will the Government be pleased to place a statement on the table showing the number of Government officers of a rank below that of the Secretary to the Diwan and drawing a salary higher than that of Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar, acting Secretary to the Diwan, on the day previous to the one on which Mr. Sesha Ayyar was first appointed to act as Secretary to the Diwan?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The *Civil List* may be referred to for the information asked for.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—May I know which *Civil List* I am referred to?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Cochin *Civil List* corrected up to Kumbham 1102.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Sir, the information I want is the information available on the day previous to the one on which Mr. Sesha Ayyar was appointed as Secretary to the Diwan, that is, in Edavam, so that the information cannot be had from that *Civil List*. Why should wrong information be given?

President.—No such comments are necessary. You put a question, and you are entitled to get an answer. The question asked is to place a statement showing the number of Government officers of a rank below that of the Secretary to the Diwan and drawing a salary higher than that of Mr. T. S. Sesha Ayyar on the day previous to the one on which he was first appointed to act as Secretary to the Diwan. So the information asked for must relate to a period just preceding the day of appointment of Mr. Sesha Ayyar.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—That is what I want.

President.—So that *the Civil List* referred to cannot furnish that information, and if information is necessary, a list has to be specially prepared. That is the answer.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph.—Shall I have it?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—There will be no material difference between such a list and *the Civil List* corrected up to the 1st of Kumbham.

President.—Anyhow it can be prepared.

Mr. C. A. Ouseph—In *the Civil List* there are 92 appointments between these two posts.

President.—This is a matter which we were not unaware of. We knew that there were many qualified persons above

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